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and heard in the streets outside, made it evident that if universal arbitration could have been established at the will of that great throng, it would not have had to wait long. The speakers at this meeting, all of whom were listened to with the closest attention, were Cardinal Gibbons, Gen. Nelson A. Miles, Dr. E. E. Hale, Rabbi Silverman, Hon. J. M. Dickinson and Andrew Carnegie. Abstracts of these speeches are given on another page.

On Wednesday morning, at half past ten o'clock, a committee of sixteen gentlemen, of whom Hon. Henry St. George Tucker of Virginia was the spokesman, called upon President Roosevelt and presented to him the resolutions adopted by the Conference. The President received the committee most cordially, expressed himself as in perfect accord with the wish of the Conference, and said that he would devote his most careful consideration to the subject, and take all possible practical action in the direction of bringing about such agreements between this and other nations. The committee afterwards called upon Secretary Hay, who also assured them that the State Department would do all in its power to meet the wishes of the Conference. At eleven o'clock, a large committee of the Conference, of which Governor W. T. Durbin of Indiana was spokesman, also presented the resolutions to the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs.

The Conference, though in our judgment it confined itself too largely to the commercial and economic reasons for a treaty of arbitration with Great Britain, was a notable one, whether it be considered from the point of view of the influence which it will exert, or as an expression of the great advance recently made in public sentiment in favor of pacific relations between nations. We shall all hope that through its influence, cooperating with others, a treaty with Great Britain will be shortly signed and sent to the Senate for ratification. The influences which led to the failure of the treaty of 1897—the free silver issue, the Irish opposition and the Alaska boundary question—are now all out of the way. It is impossible to imagine any cause, now operating, which would lead more than one-third of the Senators to vote against a new treaty. Congress ought not to be allowed to adjourn again until the treaty is signed, ratified and proclaimed to the world.

An Arbitration Group in Congress.

One of the most interesting incidents associated with the Washington Arbitration Conference last month was the formation of an arbitration group, or section of the Interparliamentary Union, in the United States Congress.

It is not easy, at first thought, to understand why such a group was not organized years ago. One would naturally have expected, from the leading part

taken by our country in the promotion of international arbitration, that members of our national Congress would have been among the first to associate themselves with the body of parliamentarians created in 1889 at Paris for the promotion of better and more pacific relations among the nations.

The reason why they have failed to do so is probably that the necessity of such a movement has not been deeply felt in this country where until now we have known little of the burdens and dangers of an overgrown militarism. The distance, too, has contributed much to keep the members of our Congress away from the meetings of the Union, which have been held in various cities of Europe. Only Mr. Barrows, formerly member of Congress from Massachusetts, and Mr. Bartholdt, at present a member from Missouri, have been members of the Union.

It is due to Mr. Bartholdt's initiative that a group of members of the Union is now being formed among our Senators and Representatives. He succeeded last September, at the Conference at Vienna, in inducing the Union to hold its next meeting in this country. His invitation was accepted, however, with the provision that an official invitation by the President or Congress should be extended.

On Mr. Bartholdt's call about forty Representatives and Senators met in the lobby of the House of Representatives on Wednesday evening, the 13th of January, for the purpose of the organization of a branch of the Union. The origin, growth and work of the Union were explained by Mr. Bartholdt and more fully by Mr. Samuel J. Barrows, who was present. Much interest was manifested by those present, admirable short speeches being made by Mr. Hitt, chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, by Mr. Hepburn of Iowa and others. All of those who were present entered into the organization, and Mr. Bartholdt stated that, from his knowledge of the feeling in Congress, probably two-thirds of the members of both Houses would join.

A committee was appointed to secure the signatures of other Senators and Representatives, and to prepare a resolution to be introduced into Congress, asking that an official invitation to meet in this country be extended to the Union, and that an appropriation of fifty thousand dollars be made for the entertainment of the delegates when they arrive, as they have been officially entertained in other countries.

The Conference will meet in St. Louis, if the arrangements go forward,—as there is no doubt will be the case,—sometime in September next, and it is hoped to make it the most imposing demonstration of public men in favor of international arbitration and peace that has ever been made.

The Interparliamentary Union sprang from an effort made in 1888, on the initiative of Mr. William Randal Cremer, M. P., to bring the members of the English and French parliaments into closer relations

with one another. The organization was formally made in 1889, at the time of the Paris Exposition. It has grown until it now has strong groups in all the parliaments of Europe, and is the most important and powerful unofficial body of public men in the world. Its meeting in Vienna last September, under the auspices of the Austrian government, was attended by some six hundred delegates. It has met at Paris, London, Rome, Berne, Brussels, The Hague, Budapest, Christiania and Vienna. The Union has given its attention pretty largely to the subject of arbitration, including the permanent court and general treaties of arbitration. The report of its meeting at Budapest in 1896 was carried to the Czar by a Russian official who was present, and this report had great weight in inducing the call for the Hague Conference in 1899. But the indirect influence of the Union has been even greater than the direct. It has been immensely fruitful in creating a spirit of intelligence, of fairness, of largeness of view, of good understanding among the governments from whose parliaments its members have come, and in this way it has justified its existence a thousand times over.

It is cause for sincere gratification that our own national legislature, than which there is no greater parliamentary body in the world, is now, through the group which is being formed at Washington, to throw its immense weight of moral and intellectual strength into this unofficial, but none the less world-parliament. History will probably prove that no more important meeting was ever held in the national capitol than that gathering of Senators and Representatives in the lobby of the House on January 13th.

Generous Subscriptions Solicited.

The Directors of the American Peace Society will be very grateful to the members and friends of the Society if they will, as early as practicable, send such contributions as they may be able to make for the work of the current year.

The coming of the International Peace Congress to the United States next autumn will necessarily make our expenses much larger this year than usual.

Besides this, the general work of the Society, through its journal and its pamphlet literature, is continually enlarging, and making increasing demands upon our always very inadequate resources.

The subject of a regular international advisory Congress, which the Society is now promoting, is one of the most important ever put upon its program. The proposal for such a Congress has met with unexpectedly large endorsement. It has been, as all our readers know, unanimously approved by the Massachusetts Legislature, which has asked the Congress of the United States to favor it also. The subject is now before the Foreign Relations Committees of both Houses of Congress. The proper promotion of this subject at Washington and with the general public will involve the expenditure of a good deal of money.

The Society must also, as the oldest peace organiza-

tion in the nation, do its full share in advancing the proposed Anglo-American treaty of arbitration, to which this issue of our paper is so largely devoted.

For all these important lines of its work, the Directors of the Society ask for generous contributions for the current year. Send whatever gifts you may be able to make, large or small. It is a most auspicious moment.

Notes on the Washington Conference.

The local committee which made the arrangements for the Conference consisted of the following prominent Washingtonians: John W. Foster, Thomas Nelson Page, Charles J. Bell, Wm. J. Boardman, H. V. Boynton, W. V. Cox, George Dewey, John J. Edson, D. C. Gilman, C. C. Glover, Rev. S. H. Greene, Rev. T. S. Hamlin, M. A. Knapp, J. B. Larnier, H. B. F. Macfarland, Wayne MacVeagh, Nelson A. Miles, Charles W. Needham, C. S. Noyes, D. J. O'Connell, S. J. Peelle, R. R. Perry, G. M. Seekendorf, Bishop Satterlee, Samuel Spencer, Rev. D. J. Stafford, George Truesdale, Henry L. West, S. W. Woodward, Beriah Wilkins, Simon Wolf.

Two magnificent flags, the Stars and Stripes and the British Union Jack, bordered in white, and with the legend "Peace for all nations" in gold letters, were hung at the front of the hall in which the Conference was held. These flags were made by Dr. Robert S. Freedman of New York, at his own expense. They, with the flags of other countries similarly made, will be put by Dr. Freedman in the Temple of Peace at The Hague, when it is erected, to be used, two by two, when there is an arbitration going on between any two countries.

A reception, to meet Governor Durbin of Indiana, was given by Hon. John W. Foster to the members of the Conference on Tuesday evening, at his beautiful home on Eighteenth Street. Many distinguished public men not in the Conference attended the reception, and the occasion was a most interesting and inspiring one.

A considerable number of members of the American Peace Society attended the Conference. Among them were Robert Treat Paine, Samuel B. Capen, Edwin Ginn, Edwin D. Mead, Fiske Warren, Edward Everett Hale, Philip C. Garrett, Joshua L. Bailey, George F. Seward and Benjamin F. Trueblood.

Two members of the Hague Court, Hon. Oscar S. Straus, ex-minister to Turkey, and Judge George Gray of Delaware, attended the Conference and were among the most deeply interested members.

The *Washington Evening Star*, speaking of the purpose of the Conference, said that the proposed arbitration treaty with Great Britain "is an entirely practical project, by no means utopian, and to be heartily indorsed and assisted by every true patriot in both countries."

Sir Henry Mortimer Durand, who has just entered upon his duties as British Ambassador at Washington, is an earnest advocate of international arbitration, and is heartily in favor of the proposed treaty between his country and ours.

In the audience we noticed from foreign countries Dr. Thomas Barclay from England, Hon. Frederico Degetan, Commissioner from Porto Rico, and Baron Alfred von Overbeck from Germany.